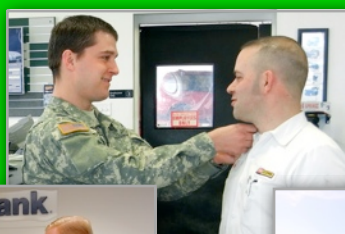




Utah



Message from the State Chairman

I hope this issue of our ESGR Utah newsletter finds you all well and energized about all of the possibilities that spring brings. Additionally, I want to welcome all of the members of the Utah Veterans and Military Employment Coalition who may be receiving this courtesy copy for the first time. We are sending this to you as you are all recognized as Citizen-Patriots and supporters of our current Servicemembers and Veterans.



Bart Davis

We have had a very busy and productive spring. In early March, employers of members of Utah's 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion spent a very educational and enjoyable three days participating in a Boss Lift to Fort Hood, Texas.

Our annual awards dinner once again was a great event and opportunity to recognize sterling examples of volunteers and employers who go above and beyond the legal requirements of protecting deployed Guard-members and Reservists. This year the Pro Patria Award was presented to L-3 Communications, of Salt Lake City, and Mona Vie, based in South Jordan.

We conducted our first spring Veterans and Families Summit March 30 in conjunction with the University of Utah's Neuropsychiatric Institute's Generations Conference. ESGR Utah partnered with the Utah Veterans and Military Employment Coalition for the event in providing educational venues and employment opportunities for Veterans, Servicemembers and families at the Salt Palace.

The event was successful, and we are reviewing how to make it even bigger and provide more value in the future.

We are transitioning to the conduit of Hero2Hired, www.h2h.jobs, as our primary vehicle to assist employers and military employment seekers. If anyone receiving this letter has any questions about how to maximize your ability to use this new program, please contact one of the following:

- Chuck Rackham, (801) 656-4133, charus.rackham@us.army.mil
- Mark Harrison, (801) 432-4536, mark.b.harrison@us.army.mil
- Kim Watts, (801) 432-4492, robert.k.watts@us.army.mil

Best wishes for a great year,

Event Calendar

- June 2 - Utah Air National Guard Employment Fair
- June 12 - Military Advisory Council Meeting
- June 21 - Draper City Job Fair
- June 21-23 - Boss Lift, 624th Engineer Company

On the Web

- ESGR Utah Newsletters: <http://bit.ly/r46EvV>
- The Latest Photos: <http://bit.ly/eQooPP>
- Twitter @ UT_ESGR

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ESGR is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972. Its mission is to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law and resolving conflicts through mediation.

Utah Employers Visit Citizen-Soldiers Training at Fort Hood

NORTH FORT HOOD, Texas — A group of civilian employers from Utah traveled here to visit their citizen-Soldier employees of the 1/211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion during the unit's premobilization training Feb. 29.

"It's an opportunity for the National Guard to bring in employers of our traditional part-time Guardsmen to see what their civilian employees do while on military status while preparing to deploy to theater," said LTC Greg Hartvigsen, commander of the 1-211th.

"We will be an aviation task force," Hartvigsen said. "We will provide aviation resources to friendly ground forces to include aerial resupply, medevac, aerial reconnaissance and security with the Apache."



The event was organized by the Utah Employer Support Guard and Reserve, a national organization that promotes the support by civilian employers of National Guard and Reserve Servicemembers.

"The ESGR mission here is to acquaint employers that have Soldiers about what they do and what their requirements are in order to get ready to deploy," said Bart Davis, ESGR Utah chairman. "It gives them a much larger appreciation for what Soldiers know and do."

This event is known as a Boss Lift, a program that ESGR uses throughout the country to familiarize, educate and promote military and civilian employer relations. It provides a way for employers and business leaders to connect with their employees who are also members of the Armed Forces.

The first day of the Boss Lift consisted of transporting employers and business executives from Utah to Fort Hood in a Utah Air National Guard KC-135 air-to-air



refueling tanker. During the flight, passengers witnessed an actual refueling, providing another chance for employers to gain a better perspective of military operations.

"It was awesome," said Margarita Angelo, an executive with Zions Bank. "I can't even express with words how precise the refueling was."

The second day of the Boss Lift, employers met with their employees in the 1-211th and viewed Soldiers' actual training. At the unit's hangar on Robert Gray Army Airfield, employers first received briefings, then were taken on a tour of the hangar, where they met with their employees.

In the hangar, many 1-211th Soldiers showed their employers the Apache AH-64 helicopters the unit will fly during their deployment. While business leaders showed great enthusiasm for what Soldiers do, for some employers, their interest was more personal.



ESGR Utah In the News

"This is the first time I get to personally see what one of my sons does for the military," said Joel Harmon, owner of Harmon's Hardware Company. Harmon has four sons in the U.S. Armed Forces; SGT Jesse Harmon of the 1-211th is one of them.



Coincidentally, the Harmons were not the only father-son duo in attendance. Davis was there to see his son, CWV4 Brandon Davis.

"I was deployed to Vietnam when he was born," Bart Davis said. "I've said goodbye to many fathers' Soldiers, but when you say goodbye to your own, it's something you can't explain."

Soldiers and employers traveled to the Crittenger Range on North Fort Hood to view the AH-64 Apache engaging in live-fire exercises. The focus of the 1-211th during this training was to be certified with the helicopters by the 166th Aviation Brigade. Employers were given a front-row seat to the aviation training.



"I almost feel like going on my knees and saying 'thank for you doing what you do,'" Angelo said. "We see a lot of movies about what military people do but, when it comes down to it, by coming here and seeing what [they] do makes me appreciate it even more." [More photos.](#)

— SSG Tony Foster, www.army.mil, March 6, 2012

Two Utah Firms Honored for support of Guard, Reserve

SALT LAKE CITY — Two Utah employers have been selected as semifinalists for the 2012 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award for exceptional commitment to their Guard and Reserve employees.

This year, 133 semifinalists nationwide stood out among a pool of 3,236 nominees.

Utah's honorees are L-3 Communications, Salt Lake City, which specializes in communications systems for high-performance intelligence collection, and MonaVie, South Jordan, a multilevel distributor of nutritional products.

Freedom Award nominations come directly from Guard and Reserve members or family members acting on their behalf. The process provides service members an opportunity to recognize employers for going above and beyond what is required by law.

These "employers have distinguished themselves for their support of their National Guard and Reserve employees, and are truly serving our nation with their extraordinary commitment," said James Rebholz, national chairman of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense agency. "Their efforts are to be applauded, and ESGR salutes these patriotic employers for their special care of their Guard and Reserve employees and their families while they serve our nation in times of war and peace."

— Salt Lake Tribune, April 24, 2012



Jorgensen's in Richfield Earns Patriot Award

RICHFIELD — Specialist Duane Gerety nominated his employer for support given to him during the deployment of 2nd Battalion, 222nd Field Artillery, Utah Army National Guard last year.



Photo courtesy of Stan Poulson
Dennis Jorgensen, left, and Shane Yergensen, right, receive the Patriot Award Jan. 20 from employee Duane Gerety.

Jorgensen's Honda, where Duane Gerety works as a technician, was presented the award by Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Jan. 20.

"It's for all the support that they've given me through the last couple of years and my deployment," Gerety said.

He said the business and his supervisor, Shane Yergensen, have supported him in allowing him time off for regular drill exercises.

"They've always been very supportive," Gerety said.

He said Jorgensen's also allowed time off for him to spend with his family after completing his deployment.

— *Richfield Reaper*, Feb. 22, 2012

Manti Businessman Honored for Support of Troops

MANTI — Manti resident Joel Harmon, owner of Harmon's Hardware, was honored for support he has given his four sons and one stepson as they have served in the military for a combined total of 46 years in the Middle East.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Department of Defense program, recognizes employers who comply with laws protecting the employment rights of soldiers.



Photo by Mary Pipes
Joel Harmon, right, is presented the Patriot Award March 21 by ESGR Utah's Thomas and Leslie Lund, center and left.

Harmon received the award, presented by local ESGR representatives Thomas and Leslie Lund, at the Manti Area Chamber of Commerce lunch March 21.

Harmon's sons Joseph, Derik, Jesse and Daren have been on a total of 11 tours to the Middle East, and his stepson, Clint Stevens, has served four years in the Air Force.

Harmon says his boys will always have a job with him when they come home.

— Mary Pipes, *Sanpete Messenger*, April 4, 2012



Photo courtesy of the Richfield Reaper
Sufco Mine employees receive the Patriot Award Feb. 10 in Salina for their support of military employees.

SALINA — The Sufco Mine in Salina Canyon has been named a recipient of the Patriot Award. Specialist Brett Cheney, Ephraim, nominated the mine for the award.

Cheney, a member of the Utah National Guard's First Battalion, 211th Aviation, said the mine was supportive of his being deployed, even though he was a new hire.

"They are very supportive to my wife and daughter, telling them personally that they will do anything they can to help whether it be money, groceries or bills," Cheney said.

— *Richfield Reaper*, March 7, 2012

Out and About



Patriot Award Presented to U.S. Bank Supervisors in Roy

ROY — Specialist Anthony Cooksey, center, of the Utah National Guard's Medical Command, nominated his U.S. Bank supervisor, Nancy Fuentes, left, for the Patriot Award.

Andrew Cunningham, U.S. Bank branch manager, right, also received a Patriot Award at the same presentation March 13, from ESGR Utah's Kay Hargis, second from left.



South Ogden's GMRE Receives the Patriot Award

SOUTH OGDEN — Staff Sergeant Ed Faulx, left, of the 419th Fighter Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve, nominated his supervisor at Gauss Management Research and Engineering (GMRE), Jay Mosley, right, for the Patriot Award.

Kay Hargis, of ESGR Utah, center, presented the award to Mosley March 9.



Les Schwab Tires in Riverdale Nominated for Patriot Award

RIVERDALE — Shannon McGraw, right, manager of Les Schwab Tires in Riverdale, received the Patriot Award March 15.

Specialist Kyson Walker, of the 197th Special Troops Company, Utah Army National Guard, nominated McGraw for his support of Walker in his military duties. ESGR Utah was represented by Kay Hargis at the ceremony.



Patriot Award for LDS Church Public Affairs Department

SALT LAKE CITY — Michael Von Rosen, pictured third from left, of the Public Affairs department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, received the Patriot Award March 26 in a presentation at the LDS Church Office Building.

Sergeant Jesse Dredge, center, of Delta Company, 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion, Utah Army National Guard, nominated Von Rosen for the award, and Ran MacDonald represented ESGR Utah at the ceremony.



Mayor of Roy Signs ESGR Statement of Support

ROY — Joseph Ritchie, mayor of Roy, Utah, attended a Patriot Award presentation April 17 for Roy Police Chief Greg Whinham and signed a Statement of Support of the U.S. military.

The city of Roy has a 30-year history of supporting the Guard and Reserve, granting hours of military leave for employees and utility abatements for deployed Servicemembers. Kay Hargis, right, presented the award to Ritchie.



Roy Police Chief Honored with the Patriot Award

ROY — Roy Police Chief Greg Whinham, left, received the Patriot Award April 17 for his support of employee Senior Airman Hiram Barker, right, of the 419th Maintenance Squadron, U.S. Air Force Reserve.

ESGR Utah's Kay Hargis presented Whinham with his award as Barker "pinned" his boss with an ESGR pin to recognize his commitment to supporting the Armed Forces of the United States.



Chiropractic Revolutions Recognized with Spouse Patriot Award

LAYTON — Dr. Brandon Trujillo, second from right, received the Spouse Patriot Award March 28 for his support of employee Tory Baerga, right, wife of SGT Daniel Baerga, second from left, of the 744th Engineer Company, U.S. Army Reserve.

Baerga nominated his wife's employer for supporting her as a military spouse.



Utility Trailer Company Receives Patriot Award

CLEARFIELD — Specialist Rolando Rocha, 96th Sustainment Brigade, U.S. Army Reserve, second from left, nominated his supervisor at the Utility Trailer Company, Joe Maylin, left, for the Patriot Award.

Steve Smith, right, manager of the Clearfield-based plant, signed a State of Support during the ceremony.

On hand to present the award March 6 to Maylin was Kay Hargis of ESGR's Utah's Region I.

Out and About



Patriot Award Presented to USDA Food Service Inspectors

SALT LAKE CITY — USDA Consumer Safety Inspector Steve Elmer, left, who is also commander of the Fort Douglas-based 200th Medical Detachment, U.S. Army Reserve, nominated several food inspectors for the Patriot Award.

ESGR Utah's Jeff Tiede, right, presented the awards March 22 to the inspectors who appear in the photo above holding their certificates: (from left to right) Shadd Ragan, Mark Beutler, Vicki Nelson, Curtis Conger, and Rodrick Rassmussen.



ATK and Bernard Price Honored as Patriotic Employers

PROMONTORY — The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) honored ATK and the Hazards Analysis Manager, Bernard Price, center, as patriotic employers April 10 at the ATK Aerospace Systems Promontory facility.

Norman Nelson, military outreach coordinator for ESGR Utah, right, specifically recognized support provided to

Cannon Neslen, Hazards Analyst for the ATK Hazards Analysis group at Promontory. Neslen serves as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

"ATK has been a tremendous support to me and my family in my service in the Reserve," said Cannon. "Bernard has been a superb manager and advocate and has coordinated assuming all of my responsibilities during my absence of 30-40 days of Annual Training. Cannon's responsibilities in the Reserve include command of a 30-person unit charged with providing operational ordnance logistics support of Navy, Joint, and Allied maritime vessels in the Pacific Northwest.

When presented with the award, Price recognized his staff for the way they have also supported Neslen.

"It is not just me—it is the entire Hazards Analysis group," he said. "The military protects our way of life and we are appreciative of those who serve our country."

— by Jennifer Bowman

Tips and Info

Newsletter Submissions

Your photos, articles, and other contributions help make our newsletter better for everyone. Here are some guidelines for submitting photos and information to make publication of the newsletter as smooth as possible:

- **No low-resolution photos.** Photos taken with older mobile phones are not of publishable quality. Please ensure that your photo is at least 350K in size.
- **Take more than one picture!** Subjects will often look away from the camera or have their eyes closed. Multiple photos increase the chances that your photo will be useable for the newsletter.
- **Natural light is our friend.** Posing subjects opposite a window if possible while indoors enhances photos.
- **Be generous with your event information.** Include the date; location; names of individuals in the photos; name of the photographer; and **name, rank, and unit** of the military member(s) who nominated their employer(s) for Patriot Awards.
- **Send photos as attachments.** Photos embedded in documents or links to photo-sharing services like Shutterfly, Snapfish, or Photobucket create time-consuming hurdles for our intrepid-yet-humble newsletter staff.
- **New e-mail address.** Please send your photos and other submissions to hank.mcintire@gmail.com.

2012 Awards Conference

ESGR Utah held its annual Planning and Awards Conference March 23-24 in Salt Lake City.

At the awards dinner March 23, L-3 Communications, of Salt Lake City, and Mona Vie, of South Jordan, received the Pro Patria Award for their continued and exemplary support of their Servicemember employees and families.

Jackie Sexton, below, of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, received the Seven Seals Award for meritorious leadership and initiative in support of the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve.



Also honored were the following members of the ESGR Utah committee for outstanding performance: Scott Harrison, Jeff Tiede, Kay Hargis, Jim Slade, Earl Slack, Kenneth Wade, Al Yardley, Elizabeth Atisme, Mark Holland, Mark Huntsman, and Fritz Pipkin.

Key ESGR Utah Staff

- Bart Davis, State Chairman, (801) 432-4937
- Kim Watts, Chief of Staff, (801) 432-4492
- Martin Walsh, Employer Outreach, (801) 652-2836
- Chuck Rackham, EIP Program, (801) 656-4133

Contact Us

Your feedback has helped us improve the ESGR Utah newsletter with each new issue. Please e-mail Hank McIntire at hank.mcintire@gmail.com to provide submissions, comments, or suggestions.

What Is the Pro Patria Award?

“Pro Patria” is Latin phrase meaning “For Country.” The award is presented annually by ESGR Committees to employers in their state who have provided the most exceptional support of our national defense through leadership practices and personnel policies that support their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

Here are some examples of what America's most supportive employers do. Nominators should consider these examples in writing the narrative on their nomination form, citing as many ways as may apply, and include other ways their employer supports their service.

- Maintains contact with Guard and Reserve employees while they are on Annual Training or mobilized.
- Participates in ESGR programs (Statement of Support signings, Employer Briefings, Boss Lifts, and others).
- Sponsors a company Guard and Reserve recognition day.
- Features Guardmembers and Reservists on Company bulletin boards, in newsletters or at meetings.
- Has a published leave policy.
- Has a published military mobilization policy.
- Provides pay differential during periods of military training.
- Provides pay differential during mobilizations.
- Provides paid military leave.
- Provides continuation of insurance and monetary benefits during mobilizations.
- Assigns a company sponsor to families of Guard and Reserve employees that have been deployed.
- Holds informational meeting and offers other means of communication for family members of Guard and Reserve employees who have been deployed.

Click on the following link for more information about the Pro Patria Award: <http://www.esgr.mil/site/Programs/ProPatriaAward.aspx>.